

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Notice of Request for Extension of Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Foreign Agricultural Service's (FAS) intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the Pub. L. 480, Title I program.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by April 10, 1998 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Connie B. Delaplane, Director, Pub. L. 480 Operations Division, Export Credits, Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 4549 South Building, Stop 1033, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-1033. Telephone: (202) 720-3664.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Request for Vessel Approval, Form CCC-105; and Request for Vessel Approval Form CCC-105 (cotton).

OMB number: 0551-0008.

Expiration Date of Approval: June 30, 1998.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: Title I of the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954, as amended, (Pub. L. 480) authorizes the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) to finance the sale and exportation of agricultural commodities on concessional terms. 7 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.* Shipping agents or embassies submit pertinent shipping

information on Form CCC-105 to facilitate approval by CCC of shipping arrangements. This approval is necessary to assure compliance with cargo preference requirements at the lowest cost to CCC. Agents submit this document in order that USDA can generate the CCC-106, a necessary payment document. Ocean carriers then receive payment for ocean freight.

Estimate of Burden: The public reporting burden is 15 minutes per response for suppliers of ocean transportation reporting details of freight transactions.

Respondents: Business or other-for-profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 8.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 22.5 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Valerie Countiss, the Agency Information Collection coordinator, at (202) 720-6713.

Request for Comments: Comments are invited on (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the equality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Connie B. Delaplane, Director, P.L. 480 Operations Division, Export Credits, Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 4549 South Building, Stop 1033, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-1033. Telephone (202) 720-3664.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Signed at Washington, DC on January 29, 1998.

Christopher E. Goldthwait,

General Sales Manager, Foreign Agricultural Service and Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

[FR Doc. 98-3089 Filed 2-6-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Cancellation of New York's Designation

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA), USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (Act), provides that official agency designations will end not later than triennially and may be renewed. The New York State Department of Agriculture (New York) is designated to provide official inspection services until October 31, 1999, according to the Act. New York asked GIPSA to cancel its designation effective April 1, 1998. Accordingly, GIPSA is announcing that New York's designation is being canceled effective April 1, 1998.

DATES: April 1, 1998.

ADDRESSES: USDA, GIPSA, Neil E. Porter, Director, Compliance Division, AG Code 3604, 1400 Independence Avenue S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-3604.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Neil E. Porter, telephone 202-720-8262.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this action.

Section 7(f)(1) of the Act authorizes GIPSA's Administrator to designate a qualified applicant to provide official services in a specified area after determining that the applicant is better able than any other applicant to provide such official services. GIPSA designated New York, main office in Albany, New York, to provide official inspection